THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the last three years number of foreign trainees trained in our training establishments is as under :—

(i)	1998-1999	—	648
(ii)	1999-2000	—	715
(iii)	2000-2001	—	1598

(c) Adequate precautions are taken during the training of the foreign defence personnel in our training establishments to ensure absolute safeguard of classified documents and secret premises.

Plight of war widows of Kargil Saheeds

4174. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many war widows of "Kargil Saheed's" are being tortured and harassed by their in-laws, Tel-Mafias and some corrupt officers;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints pending with Government;

(c) which such widows have been deprived of their husband's right to family properties;

(d) if so, the action proposed against the responsible; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to protect such widows ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : (a) to (e) An incident of torture, harassment and murder of a Shaheed's wife came to the notice of the Government in August 2000.

The Army Headquarters have reported that late Smt. Shiv Kumari Yadav, wife of late Rifleman Ram Nihor Yadav of 1/3 Gorkha Rifles, resident of Sultanpur District, Uttar Pradesh was murdered on 7th August, 2000. An FIR was lodged in Police Station, Kotwali Dehat, Sultanpur on the same day by the brother of the deceased. The Police apprehended Shri Ram Adhar, father-in-law and Shri Anand Kumar, son of Shri Daya Shankar for investigation.

In so far as the Central Government is concerned, it is ensured that the compensation amount provided to the widows of the martyred soldier actually,

reaches them. Before payment of the benefits, the 'next of kin' is asked to open a single bank account. Thereafter, Pension, Gratuity, *ex-gratia* and other entitlements from Government of India are paid into the single bank account of the 'next of kin'. However, ensuring safety against possible threat to their life and property is the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

High level talks between India and Russia

4175. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM :
SHRI KA. RA. SUBBIAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the high-level talks between India and Russia during the Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister's visit to India from November 20-23, 2000;

(b) whether the common threats to cross border terrorism and drug trafficking in the region emanating from Afghanistan were discussed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the subjects discussed during the last Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Afghanistan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : (a) India and Russia had decided to set up a Joint Working Group on Afghanistan during the visit of His Excellency Mr. Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation to India on October 2-5, 2000. The first meeting of the group was held in New Delhi on November 20-21, 2000. The Russian delegation was led by H.E. Mr. V. Trubnikov, First Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation. During this meeting both sides reviewed the situation prevailing in Afghanistan in all its dimensions.

(b) and (c) India and Russia noted that the Taliban controlled areas of Afghanistan had become centres for training, promotion and shelter of international terrorists. The two sides also recognised that the Taliban controlled areas of Afghanistan had become the largest producers of opium in the world. They called upon the Taliban to stop the illegal production of opium. Both sides agreed to continue their cooperation at the bilateral level as well multilaterally to address the threat of terrorism and illegal narcotics emanating from Afghanistan.